

December 2006 News

Seven Gold

December and the year 2006 are quickly drawing to a close. Our students have all adjusted to seventh grade and the many changes and challenges that come with grade seven. A quick reminder to all Seven Gold families, please check with your child that they have completed all assignments each day. The planner is a wonderful way of keeping track of what is going on in school or check our website for assignments. Also, please feel free to write a note in the planner and have your child bring it to our attention, or an e-mail, or a note into homeroom. These are all great tools for communication between school and home.

The Seven Gold team field trips to the Worcester Foundation were both educational and fun. We want to thank the following people for volunteering to chaperone on those field trips: Mr. Briggs, Mrs. Villalobos-Ortiz, Mr. Steinberg, Mrs. Van Slyke, Mr. Woods, Mrs. Pritchard, Mrs. Catoe, Mrs. Freilich, Mrs. Hurtz, Mrs. Ross, and Mrs. Staples. Your help was greatly appreciated!

The seven gold students finished cells and are currently working on how scientists classify living things in science. In math, students just finished solving real life problems using fractions and decimals. We will be working on percents, ratio, and proportions after the vacation. The students also did an awesome job on the "Know About Math" projects. They made timelines on history and/or essays on the History of Zero. In E.L.A. the students are completing their first novel, Chain of Fire, which is an interdisciplinary unit linking E.L.A. and Social Studies. In social Studies when studying East Africa, we'll focus on several themes: the physical features of the land, the economy, and genocide. Both the environment and genocide directly relate to our unit's essential question, "How is Africa, with so many resources, so economically poor?" In order to better understand the effects of civil war and genocide on a community and country's economy, we'll be watching Hotel Rwanda in class next week. This movie is rated PG-13 and does show powerful images. If you'd prefer that your son or daughter not see the film, please email Ms. Rawson or send a note to school with your child. Thank you!

We want to recognize several students on the 7 Gold team for their participation in the Current Events competition. From 7 Gold were: Maggie Beaton, Alissa Galisasevic, Greg Granito, CJ Howe, Chris Karwaski, Kevin Murphy, Sarah Stati, and Matt Todd. A special recognition to Maggie Beaton for tying for first place in the 7th grade, along with Kevin Murphy, who tied for third. Tying for fifth place were Alissa and C.J.

Also to recognize from our team are four students who will be competing against one another in the National Geography Bee preliminary rounds. Those students who are competing to represent 7 Gold are: Greg Granito, Fiona Merullo, Pedro Mora, and Kevin Murphy. These four will be competing against one another in January.

The report cards are coming home in the Monday folders today, Monday, 12/18/06. Please sign the Blue cover sheet and return it to school with your child with the Monday folder. The parent survey is optional, but the student survey is to be filled out by students and returned to homeroom by Wednesday, 12/20/06 as a request from Dr. Sawyer.

We are looking for any parents who would be available during the school day and would be willing to come in and help do some photocopying for the team.

We wish everyone a Happy, Healthy, Holiday Season and a wonderful New Year!

Regards,
The Seven Gold Team Teachers

P.S.—We have scheduled holiday festivities for Friday, December 22, 2006. The students can bring in cookies treats to share with the team, napkins, and plates. Please clearly label any products that contain nuts, raisins, or grapes as we have several students with allergies. Each child needs to bring his or her own juice drink or water bottle. No soda should be brought in and no glass please. Thanks again for all your support.